

FWP COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

Meeting Date: February 14, 2013

Agenda Item: Livestock Loss Board Member Solicitation

Division: Wildlife

Action Needed: Informational

Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation: 10 minutes

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Background: The Montana Gray Wolf Conservation and Management Plan included a provision for the creation of a prevention and reimbursement program for wolf-related economic damage to livestock. FWP convened a diverse working group in spring 2005 to develop guiding principles and general framework for such a program. A subcommittee worked out additional details through September 2006. Based on these efforts, HB364 passed in the 2007 Montana Legislature to establish the seven-member Montana Livestock Loss Reduction and Mitigation Board (2-15-3110 through 2-15-3114, MCA). The Board, administered by the Montana Department of Livestock, has since been re-named the Montana Livestock Loss Board.

By statute, the Governor selects three names recommended by the FWP Commission and the Montana Board of Livestock, respectively. The Governor also nominates one member at large for a total of seven Board members. The FWP Commission recommendations ideally represent the Commission and FWP's interests. Board members must be knowledgeable or experienced in at least one of the following: the raising of livestock in Montana, livestock marketing/sales, wolf-livestock interactions, wildlife conservation, administration, and fundraising.

The most recently appointed FWP-recommended board members' terms expired January 1st, 2013. They are Mike Leahy, James Cross and Brad Radtke. Previously, the FWP Commission has solicited nominations and recommended board members from the responding nominees.